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F A C T S A B O U T D R U M M O N D

Official Name: Drummond

Location: In Bayfield County, northwest Wisconsin, in the Chequamegon National Forest, near Drummond.

Number of Units: 32

History of Project: Drummond was started by the Resettlement Administration February 1, 1936, in cooperation with the Forest Service of the Department of Agriculture. The project is now under the supervision of the United States Forest Service, Chequamegon National Forest.

Purpose of Project: The project was initiated to re-establish a group of destitute families stranded on poor land, which had been zoned as unfit for agriculture by the Bayfield County under authority granted in Wisconsin Zoning Act. Thirty-two of these families will be resettled on small farms, where they will be able to produce most of their food requirements. The United States Forest Service will use the men as a source of labor to rebuild the forest resources of this blighted area, furnishing them with part-time employment to supplement their farm income. The project area has since been extended to include Ashland and part of Sawyer Counties.

Project Description: 2,320 acres were included in the original land purchase, but only part of this is utilized in the present development. Individual farms will average 20 acres each. A barn and other necessary out-buildings have been constructed. A community center is planned. School facilities are available in the adjacent town of Drummond. Deep wells, one serving each group of two to four houses, have been dug, and individual sewage disposal systems have been built. Service roads have also been built.

House Description: Nine three-room and twenty-three four-room houses were constructed, each complete with modern plumbing and electrical wiring.

The Homesteaders The families living on the project are, in the most part, of German and Scandinavian stock. They are woods workers who have been left stranded when the timber industry moved on. They are hardworking, honest, and thrifty people. The average age of the head of the family is 35 years. Families have from two to five members.

Results of Project: As the first homesteaders moved on the project in September, 1937, it is too soon to make a positive statement as to the results of the project. Present indications are favorable to the project accomplishing its purpose. The heads of the families are employed on other than emergency work, they are taking pride in their new homes and a more healthy attitude toward life is becoming apparent.

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